| Matsushita Ref*: | P038489-01 | | Application Serial No | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
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| | (a) 🗆 Original (b) 🗆 | □ Supplemental (c) □ Sub | stitute (a) 🗆 roi (| (e) □ Design |
| below next to my | / name; and I believe that ventor (if plural inventors | I am the original, first and sole | e inventor (if only one na | es and citizenship are as stated me is listed below) or an original, aimed and for which a patent is |
| Title of Invention | in: | | | |
| | JOIN | ING METHOD AND DI | EVICE THEREFOR | |
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| which is descrit | hed and claimed in (if the | following box is not checked, | the specification of which | h is attached hereto): |
| | | se when submitting this Declaration prior | <u> </u> | <u></u> |
| (f) 🗆 the atta | ached specification, or | | | |
| 1 | 2. For ; | use when submitting this Declaration after | U.S. application filing date | 3 |
| (g) ☐ the spec | cification in the U.S. | Application No. (favailable) | | iled on: |
| - | | and with amendments (if ap | pplicable): | iled on ,or |
| | | er 15 U.S.C. 371 (for use when filing this D | 5000000026 | |
| | cification in the al Application: | PCT Application No. PCT/JP: | 2005/006740 | iled on april 6, 2005 |
| (Check here only for US r | national entry under 35 U.S.C. 371.) | and with amendments (if ap | oplicable): | iled on: |
| | y state that I have review ded by any amendment(s | | tents of the above-ident | tified specification, including the |
| l acknow | wledge my duty to disclos | se to the U.S. Patent and Trac | lemark Office all informa | ation known to me to be material |
| to patentability as | s defined in Title 37, Code | e of Federal Regulations, §1.5 | 56. | Mon Mem 12 |
| application(s) for country other than | r patent or inventor's certi an the United States of Am | ficate, or §365(a) of any PCT nerica, listed below, and have | international application also identified below any | §172, or §365(b) of any foreign n which designated at least one y foreign application for patent or le application on which priority is |
| Ciairioa. | I | | | (Foreign Priority Information) |
| COUNTI | RY A | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING | PRIORITY CLAIMED |
| JAPA | N : | 2004-113920 | April 8, 2004 | Yes |
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[□] Additional foreign or international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States Provisional application(s) listed below.

| | (US Provisional Application Information) |
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| APPLICATION NO. | U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FILING DATE |
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□ Additional U.S. provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s), or §365(C) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| APPLICATION NO. | U.S. FILING DATE | STATUS: PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED |
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□ Additional U.S. or international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority sheet attached hereto.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the attorneys and agents associated with U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Number identified bellow to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and direct that all correspondence be addressed to that customer number.

I hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and agents associated with the customer number to accept and follow instructions from Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd., and any affiliated or subsidiary company thereof, received via their corporate representatives and/or their foreign patent attorneys or agents, if any, as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys or agents and myself.

Direct Correspondence to:

CUSTOMER NUMBER 52123

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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[□] Check if additional paper(s) is/are attached. Total of <u>3</u> pages are submitted.